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Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 174161

61
ORIGIN WRD-03

INFO OCT-01 AF-05 ADP-00 CCO-00 OC-06 /015 R

DRAFTED BY WRDCO:JRVANDIVIER:MPC
8/31/73:79743
APPROVED BY WRDCO:ATCRESHAM
---------- 111576
P R 312003Z AUG 73
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY BANGUI PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY KINSHASA PRIORITY
INFO AMEMBASSY FORT LAMY

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: ACOM
SUBJECT: POUCH AND COURIER AT BANGUI

REF: BANGUI 0959

1. UPON DEPARTING KINSHASA ON RK-158, THE COURIER IS INSTRUCTED TO PAY APPROPRIATE EXCESS BAGGAGE CHARGES IF ANY TO BANGUI AND FORT LAMY. SINCE THE COURIER HAS HIS POUCHES UNDER PHYSICAL CONTROL AT ALL STOPS SOME AIRLINES DO NOT INSIST THAT THE POUCHES CARRY AIRLINE TAGS ALTHOUGH IN GENERAL THE DEPARTMENT PREFERS THAT THEY BE TAGGED IN ORDER REDUCE CHANCE OF HANDLING ERROR AFTER COURIER MUST RETURN TO THE CABIN.

2. RECORDS HERE SHOW BANGUI ONLY POST IN WEST AFRICA WITH HISTORY OF PAYING AIR CARGO ON OUTGOING POUCHES AS OPPOSED TO EXCESS BAGGAGE CHARGES. WHILE CARGO USUALLY IS CHEAPER, EXCESS BAGGAGE MIGHT BE SIMPLER, MORE EFFECTIVE, AND EVEN CHEAPER IF MINIMUM CHARGES MUST BE MET.

3. AS STANDARD PRACTICE DIPLOMATIC COURIERS, LIKE ANY OTHER PASSENGER, IS ENTITLED TO HIS FULL BAGGAGE ALLOWANCE
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PAGE 02 STATE 174161

FOR BAGGAGE A D/OR POUCHES AND PAYS FOR ALL WEIGHT ABOVE

Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005

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THAT AMOUNT TO APPROPRIATE DESTINATION. COURIER DIFFERS ONLY IN THAT HE DOES NOT PERSONALLY DISEMBARK WHERE POUCHES ARE DROPPED AT AIRPORT EXCHANGE.

4. SUGGEST BANGUI MEET WITH AIR AFRIQUE LOCALLY AND WORK OUT ARRANGEMENT WHEREBY EARLY DETERMINATION CAN BE MADE AS TO WHETHER TRANSITING COURIER DOES HAVE UNUSED FREE BAGGAGE ALLOWANCE OPEN AND, IF NOT, ASSURANCES GIVEN THAT HE (THE COURIER) WILL PAY ON THE SPOT BY FS-452 ALL PROPER EXCESS CHARGES TO FORT LAMY. PLEASE ASSURE THAT PAYMENT WILL BE AT EXCESS RATE THUS NEGATING THEIR NEED TO PROVIDE CARGO TRUCK.

5. KINSHASA PLEASE ADVISE AND ARRANGE ALL COURIERS TAG THEIR MATERIAL WITH AIRLINE TAGS UPON DEPARTURE ON RK-158. ROGERS

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EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

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